

VA GROUND WATER PROTECTION STEERING COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be held on
Tuesday, January 20, 2004 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
first floor conference room, DEQ, 629 East Main Street, Richmond VA
For more information contact Mary Ann Massie at 804-698-4042 or
email mamassie@deq.state.va.us

Meeting Summary: Tuesday, November 18, 2003

Steering Committee members in attendance:

Mary Ann Massie, Department of Environmental Quality

Maria Williams, Department of Environmental Quality

Jody Aston, Department of Conservation and Recreation

Chris Adkins, Department of Health

Rebecca Askew, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Jim McKean, Department of Business Assistance

Randy McFarland, US Geological Survey

Others:

Chris Evans, Department of Environmental Quality

Kristin Bennett, University of Richmond

Josh Rubenstein, Virginia Rural Water Association

Agencies not in attendance:

Virginia Cooperative Extension, Department of Mines Minerals and Energy,
Department of Housing and Community Development, Department of General
Services/Division of Consolidated Laboratories, and the Chesapeake Bay Local
Assistance Department.

Mr. Chris Evans, DEQ, gave an informative presentation on DEQ's Land
Renewal/Brownfields program. This program is successfully providing incentives
for environmental improvements AND economic development. A brownfield site
is defined as real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may
be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance,
pollutant, or contaminant. The Land Renewal Program is complimented by the
Voluntary Remediation Program. For more information visit

<http://www.deq.state.va.us/brownfieldweb/>

Anyone interested in a hardcopy of the powerpoint presentation should contact
Mary Ann Massie.

AGENCY UPDATES:

Department of Environmental Quality

Mary Ann Massie reported Terry Wagner has been promoted to the Director of the newly established Division of Water Resources. Offices within the new division include the Office of Surface Water Investigations (Charlottesville), the Office of Ground Water Management (ground water withdrawal permitting), Ground Water Protection, and the newly established Office of Water Supply Planning (surface water withdrawal reporting, surface water intake and management areas, and water supply planning) Four positions have been approved for hire - the manager of the Office of Water Supply Planning, a data management position, agricultural withdrawal permit writer, and a field person for surface water investigations/stream gauging.

Mary Ann thanked members who contributed to the development of the Ground Water chapter for the State's 305(b) Water Quality Monitoring Report for 2004. Mary Ann explained DEQ's efforts in submitting a Performance Partnership Grant to EPA for FFY04. This effort combined the 106 base grant, the 106 ground water grant, and the 104 grant.

Mary Ann reported the 2004 Ground Water Festival, held in conjunction with a surface water monitoring field day at Camp Brady Saunders, was a success. 309 middle school students from Powhatan County attended the event.

Maria Williams, Waste Division, reported staff are working on guidance for decision making as the end of the post closure period for landfills draws near.

Department of Business Assistance

Jim McKean noted their next quarterly seminar will be held December 3 in Richmond. The topic is Homeland Security. Details are available on their web page www.dba.state.va.us Earlier seminars focused on agribusiness and women/minority owned business - both were well attended.

Jim reported Governor Warner's workforce development czar, Ms. Barbara Bolin, is examining 22 training programs within 10 state agencies with an eye toward combining some of these programs. Impacts to DBA's Workforce Services are not known at this time.

Jim encouraged members to visit their web page for information on small business development.

Department of Health

Chris Adkins reported Jerry Peaks has been promoted to Director of the Office of Drinking Water. Additionally the Health Department will be moving from Main Street Station to the Madison Building the first of December. Emails and phone

numbers will change however the old contact information should be good for a short while.

Chris reported successful Source Water Protection activities undertaken by their contractor Olver Inc. In the first quarter, July - September, Olver has contacted 25 systems; eight systems have verbally committed to moving forward with protection programs. The highest interest in the program has been seen in the counties of Loudoun and Shenandoah.

Chris reported the final USGS report "Virginia Aquifer Susceptibility" study is available on line at http://water.usgs.gov/pubs/wri/wri034278/wrir03_4278.pdf If GWPSC members are unable to download this very large document, please contact Mary Ann Massie to request a hardcopy by the January meeting. Data gathered as part of this study, specifically well construction data, may change some of the Coastal Plain PWS susceptibility rankings.

Chris is also hoping to launch an Intranet GIS server to share mapping capabilities with the VDH Field Offices and local health officials. This project should be up and running by spring 04. In an October meeting with DEQ managers relating to the Performance Partnership Agreement Chris indicated an interest in allocating some of the SDWA fund set-aside to assist DEQ with collecting more electronic data, rather than hardcopy. He encouraged DEQ to submit a set aside form indicating a need for funding to increase electronic data collection and transfer.

Department of Conservation and Recreation

Jody Aston reported she has been assigned to the Citizen Monitoring Program at DCR.

US Geological Survey

Randy McFarland, USGS, provided the following update:

1. An international symposium was held at USGS Reston in late September for the purpose of planning a multi-thousand-foot deep core hole near the center of the Chesapeake Bay impact crater at Cape Charles, most likely during 2005.
2. A separate effort has received funding to construct a nested pair of observation wells at the crater center during Spring 2004.
3. GIS analysis of the hydrogeologic framework of the entire Virginia Coastal Plain and adjacent areas reached an interim stage of completion that was incorporated into the revised ground-water flow model last August.
4. New drilling information is being obtained and used along with historical data to further refine the framework during 2004.
5. Calibration of the revised ground-water flow model of the Virginia Coastal Plain is getting underway as ground-water withdrawal data are being compiled in conjunction with the interim framework.

6. The multidisciplinary synthesis of the Northern Shenandoah Valley has received funding to begin this year, and will include development of a regional ground-water model. Progress can be tracked on the web site for the Great Valley Water-Resource Science Forum at <http://va.water.usgs.gov/GreatValley/Index.htm> .
7. Ground-water level network wells in Frederick and Clarke Counties have shown recoveries from the drought of as much as 50 feet. These wells now document both record high levels and record lows.

Randy further noted that activities at the center of the crater (Cape Charles) would begin to focus on geologic data. Earlier efforts on the crater rim focused on ground water. In response to a question on the coverage of the Virginia Coastal Plain model, Randy indicated model coverage does extend into Maryland and North Carolina.

Josh Rubenstein with **Virginia Rural Water Association** stated their Annual Conference will be held March 16 and 17 in Richmond. For details visit www.vrwa.org Josh indicated the Water Supply TAC did not reach consensus and would be meeting in March 2004.

**THE NEXT MEETING IS SET FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2004
9 A.M. DEQ FIRST FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM. PLEASE MARK YOUR
CALENDAR TO ATTEND.**